

ABSTRACT

Telecommunication carriers that provide collect and bill-to-third-party calls face considerable revenue losses due to unbillable, uncollectible, and fraudulent calls. This real-time call validation system reduces the number of unbillable calls by determining when the dialed number has been ported, the originating carrier has no billing relationship with the terminating carrier, or the dialed number belongs to a customer of a switchless reseller, all events that in today's environment would result in an unbillable call. This system also decreases subscriber fraud by identifying in real-time a dialed number's listed name and address and determining whether there are other numbers associated with said name and address and, if so, whether they are associated with a history of fraud, bad debt, or unbillability. Finally, this system provides a real-time method for applying industry-standard credit assessment tools to the management of collect and bill-to-third-party accounts.